

[REDACTED] H [REDACTED]
Chief, Contact Division

22 September 1953
Memo No. 893

ATTN: [REDACTED] Messrs. [REDACTED] A

Chief, [REDACTED]

Research in Alkaloids of Ergot (D-lysergic acid diethylamide
LSD-25) at [REDACTED] B

Reference: Telephone Conversation: [REDACTED] - Dr. [REDACTED] A
17 September 1953; Case [REDACTED] H

H [REDACTED] 1. On 21 September 1953 we had a joint conversation with Drs. [REDACTED]

C/B [REDACTED] These men are
vitaly interested in ergot and their combined experience covers the
production of ergot drugs through its application in the field of
medicine.

C/B 2.

I 3.

I 4.

I 5. All of the above men conclude that LSD-25 is a dangerous material
and that it has a potential as a CW and BW agent. These aspects are some-
thing they had not thought about prior to our interest in the subject
generally. At this point their enthusiasm is running high and they are
very interested in pursuing the research to a conclusion. They propose
that the following subjects should be investigated:

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[REDACTED] 2-C

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- a. Why would any country be interested in obtaining large quantities of ergot or its derivatives? This question is predicated on the fact that exclusive of ergot derivatives used in obstetrics, drugs obtained by synthesis in unlimited quantities produce controlled effects which are better than those obtained by ergot derivatives. Therefore if any country or group of countries are procuring quantities of ergot and/or its derivatives it must be for uses yet unknown to US investigations.
- b. LSD-25 is a potential "anti-anxiety" agent as indicated by tests conducted in Europe [See [redacted] Reports 3873 and 3886]. In view of this, what would be the effects of mass application to a populace or troops in terms of civil defense or offensive actions? It would be well to determine precise psychic reactions in human beings and to develop a possible antidote.
- c. It should be definitely determined what quantities of ergot derivatives (LSD-25) would be needed to effectively contaminate food and water supplies.

6. We have been assured by the [redacted] scientists that they will cooperate fully in anything we suggest. In this connection we would appreciate headquarters' suggestions which could be used to steer the experiments along lines most useful to CIA and/or other government agencies. There is no immediate call for funds from CIA as Dr. [redacted] and associates are interested enough to proceed on available medical school funds. Funds will be needed later when human subjects are hired (at approximately US\$1 per hour) for experiments. The figure of US\$1 thousand is suggested as a reserve fund. We will appreciate your reactions and suggestions regarding this proposal.

00, [redacted] A